Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

On Page 1 of the specification, replace the first paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

Cross Reference to Related Applications

This application claims priority from US Provisional Application Serial No. 60/497628, filed August 25, ~~2004~~ 2003 the entire contents of which is herein incorporated by reference.

On page 1 of the specification, replace the second paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

BACKGROUND

There has been a major effort in recent years, with significant successes, to discover new drug compounds that act by stimulating certain key aspects of the immune system, as well as by suppressing certain other aspects (see, e.g., U.S. Patent Nos. 6,039,969 and 6,200,592). These compounds, referred to herein as immune response modifiers (IRMs), appear to act through basic immune system mechanisms known as toll-like receptors to induce selected cytokine biosynthesis and may be used to treat a wide variety of diseases and conditions. For example, certain IRMs may be useful for treating viral diseases (e.g., human papilloma virus, hepatitis, herpes), neoplasias (e.g., basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, actinic keratosis, melanoma), and TH2-mediated diseases (e.g., asthma, allergic rhinitis, atopic dermatitis, multiple sclerosis), and are also useful as vaccine adjuvants. Many of the IRM compounds are small organic molecule imidazoquinoline amine derivatives (see, e.g., U.S. 4,689,338), but a number of other compound classes are known as well (see, e.g., U.S. 5,446,153; U.S. 6,194,425; and U.S. 6,110,929) and more are still being discovered. Other IRMs have higher molecular weights, such as oligonucleotides, including CpGs (see, e.g., U.S. ~~6,1994,388~~ 6,194,388). In view of the great therapeutic potential for IRMs, and despite the important work that has already been done, there is a substantial ongoing need for new means of controlling the delivery and activity of IRMs in order to expand their uses and therapeutic benefits.

On page 18 of the specification, replace the second paragraph, beginning on line 15, with the following amended paragraph:

Other IRM compounds include large biological molecules such as oligonucleotide sequences. Some IRM oligonucleotide sequences contain cytosine-guanine dinucleotides (CpG) and are described, for example, in U.S. Patent Nos. ~~6,1994,388~~ 6,194,338; 6,207,646; 6,239,116; 6,339,068; and 6,406,705. Some CpG-containing oligonucleotides can include synthetic immunomodulatory structural motifs such as those described, for example, in U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,426,334 and 6,476,000. Other IRM nucleotide sequences lack CpG and are described, for example, in International Patent Publication No. WO 00/75304.